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Docket No.: C036226/0125733

**REPLY UNDER
37 CFR § 1.116**

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)

Alessandro Lambiase)

Examiner: D. L. Vanik

Serial No.: 09/890,088)

Art Unit: 1615

Filed: July 26, 2001)

For: **USE OF NERVE GROWTH FACTOR
FOR THERAPY OF INTRAOCULAR
TISSUE PATHOLOGIES**)

New York, New York
March 8, 2006

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116
INCLUDING AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed on September 8, 2005, which set a three-month shortened statutory period for reply. A three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action is hereby requested. With this

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510.00 OP

Application No.: 09/890,088
Amendment Dated: March 8, 2006
Reply to Office Action Dated: September 8, 2005

extension, the due date for reply to the Office Action will be March 8, 2006. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$510.00 to cover the fee for the extension of time.

Submitted concurrently herewith is a Notice of Appeal and the necessary fee.

Please charge any required extension-of-time fees or any other fees not otherwise paid by check to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Because the Office Action made the rejection of the pending claims final, consideration of this response pursuant to the expedited procedure for response after final rejection set forth in MPEP § 714.13 (8th Ed., Rev. 3, Aug. 2005, pp. 700-239 to 700-240) respectfully is solicited.

Please amend the application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION: None.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on page 7 of this paper.